



Bureau of Land Management  
Rawlins Field Office  
P.O. Box 2407  
Rawlins, WY 82301-2407

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# Rawlins Resource Management Plan

On June 5, 2007, a Notice of Availability (NOA) was published in the Federal Register providing supplemental information on areas of critical environmental concern (ACEC) proposed in the Draft RMP/EIS. The proposed ACECs and resource use limitations that are identified in the Draft RMP/EIS were not specifically identified in the original NOA. This newly released notice fulfills the regulatory requirements to notify the public of proposed ACECs in a Federal Register Notice. This notice initiated a 60-day public comment period. Comments must be received by or before the end of the 60-day comment period. Written comments may be submitted as follows:

Comments may be provided via the Rawlins RMP Revision Web site at: <http://www.blm.gov/rmp/wy/rawlins/>  
Written comments may be mailed or delivered to the BLM at: **Rawlins RMP/EIS, Bureau of Land Management Rawlins Field Office, 1300 North Third Street, P.O. Box 2407, Rawlins Wyoming 82301**  
Comments may be sent by facsimile to: **(307) 328-4224**.

## MAILING LIST UPDATE

If you would like to be removed from the mailing list or update your personal information (name, organization or address), please send an email request to John Spehar at: [john\\_spehar@blm.gov](mailto:john_spehar@blm.gov). If you do not send an email request, your current information will remain on the mailing list.



## For more information, contact:

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# Resource Management Plan

## Plan Development

Rawlins Field Office  
July 2007

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is continuing to work on developing a new Resource Management Plan (RMP) for the Rawlins Field Office (FO) and an associated Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Initiated in February 2002, the RMP planning process started with the publication of the Notice of Intent (NOI) in the Federal Register. A series of four scoping meetings were held in March 2003 to encourage public participation in the RMP planning process.

The Draft EIS for the Rawlins RMP was released for public review on December 17, 2004 with the publication of the Notice of Availability (NOA) in the Federal Register. This notice initiated the 90-day public comment period, which concluded on March 18, 2005. Four public meetings and hearings were held in February 2005 to provide an opportunity to comment on the Draft RMP/EIS. During the 90-day public comment period, approximately 63,233 comment letters were received via written, email, web-based, and verbal formats from members of the public, governments, governmental agencies, and nongovernmental agencies. All comments were evaluated and detailed responses to substantive comments will be provided in the Final EIS.

Cooperating agencies have been actively involved in the development of the RMP/EIS throughout the planning process. Cooperating agency status is extended to the State of Wyoming, Carbon County, Albany County, Sweetwater County, and various conservation districts. These agencies provide assistance in the development of the RMP/EIS through their expertise in planning issues and knowledge of the planning area. The cooperating agencies were formally invited to participate in the development of the alternatives and to provide existing data and other information relative to their agency responsibilities, goals, and mandates. The Rawlins FO conducted meetings with cooperating agencies throughout the RMP development process. Recently, meetings were held in January 2006 to incorporate goals and objectives into the Proposed RMP/Final EIS, and in May 2007 to address additional comments raised by the cooperating agencies.

### NEXT STEPS IN THE RMP PLANNING PROCESS

**Prepare and Publish Proposed RMP and Final EIS.** Based on public comments and internal review, needed changes, corrections, and revisions will be incorporated into a Proposed RMP/Final EIS. Following approval of its release, the Proposed RMP/Final EIS will be distributed to the public. An NOA will be published in the Federal Register, which will initiate the 30-day protest period.

**30-day Protest Period.** The protest period allows the public an opportunity to protest the BLM's proposed land use plan decisions.

**60-day Governor's Consistency Review.** The Governor will have 60 days to review the proposed plan, identify inconsistencies between the proposed plan and state programs, and provide written recommendations to the BLM State Director.

**Prepare Record of Decision.** Once all protests have been resolved and the Governor's consistency review has been completed, the State Director will approve the RMP by signing the Record of Decision (ROD).

### SUMMARY OF THE PROTEST PROCESS

Any participant in the planning process who has an interest that is or may be adversely affected by the Proposed RMP may file a protest.

**Protestable Items:** A proposed decision in the Rawlins RMP that may adversely affect an individual or group is protestable.

**Protest Procedure:** A letter of protest must be filed with the BLM Director within 30 days of publication of the NOA for the Proposed RMP/Final EIS in the Federal Register.

**Letters of Protest:** The protest must be in writing and contain—

- \* The name, mailing address, telephone number, and interest of the person filing the protest
- \* A statement of the issue(s) being protested
- \* A copy of all documents addressing the issue(s) that were submitted during the planning process by the protesting party, or an indication of the date the issue(s) were discussed for the record
- \* A concise statement explaining why the proposed RMP is believed to be wrong.

